

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING TOM BURRELL
ON 23 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE LAKE RIDGE OCCOQUAN
COLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Burrell for his 23 years of selfless service to the Lake Ridge-Occoquan-Coles Civic Association (LOCCA) and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement as Chairman.

Mr. Burrell has been a member of LOCCA since 1993. In 1998, Mr. Burrell volunteered to serve as Chairman of LOCCA's Planning, Environment Land-Use and Transportation (PELT) Committee. He brought with him his leadership and organizational skills acquired from his military service training in the U.S. Army and West Point Military Academy. He served as chairman from 1998 to 2021, nearly 23 years.

As the PELT Committee Chairman for more than two decades, Mr. Burrell was directly responsible for coordinating and scheduling regular monthly PELT Committee review meetings. Furthermore, he arranged special work sessions between citizens, homeowner association representatives, the development community, and their elected representatives, to engage in face-to-face dialogue to review various potential projects.

As PELT Committee Chairman, Mr. Burrell participated in providing feedback to Planning Office staff, the Planning Commission, and the Board of County Supervisors at public hearings. Mr. Burrell chaired meetings on a variety of topics ranging from educating citizens on county land-use, rezoning, special use permit applications and comprehensive plan land-use requests as well as a facilitating communication between residents and developers.

Mr. Burrell also contributed to Prince William County in numerous capacities beyond LOCCA. He served as Vice Chairman on Prince William County's Future's Commission and as Vice Chairman on Prince William County's Land Use Advisory Committee. Mr. Burrell has served as a member of his homeowner association's (HOA's) Board of trustees for 15 years in Prince William County, serving 2 years as Treasurer and 8 years as President.

Because of his tireless and diligent work, Mr. Burrell was appointed by the Governor Northam to the Virginia Common Interest Community Board and has served as a Planning Commission member for the City of Fairfax.

I congratulate Mr. Burrell and commend him for his outstanding service to the betterment of our local community. He has contributed greatly to make the community he lives in a better place for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Tom Burrell for his

service, and in wishing him and his wife Bonnie continued health, happiness, and success as they embark on a new chapter in life.

SEAMUS RILEY—EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Seamus Riley for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Seamus completed his Eagle Scout project December of last year. His project consisted of pouring ten 3 x 5 concrete slabs for entryways through a fenced in area that leads to a community recreational area where sporting events take place. Seamus coordinated the entire project and solicited the funds and material. He learned how to utilize his leadership skills in order to apply engineering and math skills to his project. Seamus will be pursuing a college degree in Colorado majoring in engineering. I wish Seamus the best of luck in his future endeavors and I know he will go on to achieve great things. God Bless Seamus and God Bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
ALLOW CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS
WITH PRIOR SERVICE UNDER
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RE-
TIREMENT SYSTEM TO MAKE
DEPOSITS TOWARDS ANNUITIES
UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE RE-
TIREMENT SYSTEM AND THE
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RETIRE-
MENT SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to correct a retirement issue for several categories of workers who used to be under the District of Columbia retirement system.

In 1997, Congress transferred several categories of workers who participated in D.C.'s defined contribution plan from 1987 to 1997 to the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). However, these workers' service from 1987 to 1997 was not counted for purposes of creditable service or annuity amount in FERS. In 2009, Congress gave these employees the right to have this service counted for creditable service.

My bill would correct this last retirement issue for these public servants. It would allow these workers to buy into the FERS annuity amount for 1987 to 1997 by paying 1.3 percent of their base pay plus interest, essentially the employee contribution for this time, which would give them the full retirement benefit to which they are entitled.

Our bill is an important step to assist these workers in getting the retirement benefits they deserve. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on Roll Call No. 209 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 826, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 210 on ordering the previous question of H. Res. 535, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On Roll Call No. 211 on agreeing to the resolution of H. Res. 535, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On Roll Call No. 212 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass certain bills and agree to certain resolutions, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On Roll Call No. 213 on the motion to recommit for H.R. 2668, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 214 on passage of H.R. 2668, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALBERT
EARL BROOKS, SR.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of my dear friend, Albert Earl Brooks, Sr., a highly distinguished community leader who passed away on March 25, 2021.

Albert Brooks dedicated his life to serving others and participating in the struggle for racial equality, social and economic equity, and voting rights. Al was born in Tabor City, North Carolina and grew up in Buffalo, New York. He joined the United States Army and then received his B.A. from the University of New York at Buffalo.

After completing his service in the Army, Al served as the Executive Director of the Buffalo Affirmative Action Plan. He was then selected by Governor Nelson Rockefeller of New York to work for the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. While working in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Al

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

served as a Civil Rights Specialist and External Complaints Coordinator. This experience allowed him to transition to the Department of Labor where he worked as an Equal Opportunity Specialist and Civil Rights Officer. During his time at the Department of Labor, he became Executive Director for a program under the A. Philip Randolph Institute's Educational Fund. Under his leadership, the program pushed for desegregation of labor unions and to provide training for African American men who were historically denied employment in the trades industry.

His commitment to service extended beyond his professional life. Al was deeply involved in local politics and community activism. He was an active member of the Prince William County NAACP branch, the National Urban League, and the Prince William County Democratic Committee.

Al served as Chairman of the Black Democratic Committee for several terms and was coordinator of the PWC Democratic Committee's DMV early voting efforts for many years. During election season, Al would devote entire days to greeting voters at the DMV, passing out literature, and placing and removing candidate signs from the polling place.

Voting rights, community engagement, and grassroots organization motivated Al in all of his endeavors. His efforts of founding the African American Democratic Club helped increase the number of African American elected officials in Prince William County. He was instrumental in numerous campaigns and helped many of Prince William County's current leaders win their elections. Al worked to ensure everyone's voice was heard at the ballot box and he fully understood the power of civic engagement. Because of this work, Al has made our community better.

Madam Speaker, our community has lost a giant public servant, community icon, and a mentor to so many. A loving husband and father, Al spent his life in service to our country and to his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the memory and life of my dear friend, Albert Earl Brooks, Sr.

HONORING JEFF OLSON AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Olson, a community pharmacist at Montross Pharmacy, as this week's Iowan of the Week. Since 1995, Jeff has been the owner and operator of Montross Pharmacy in Winterset, Iowa, which this year is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

If you were to ask Jeff what it means to be a community pharmacist, he'd emphasize one word: community. Every day, Jeff works to make sure nobody goes without the care they need—whether that means fielding questions at the pharmacy counter, delivering prescriptions at home, or supporting local health as president of the Madison County Health Trust. Community pharmacies like Montross Pharmacy are mainstays and integral parts of the health care system in our small towns.

When COVID-19 forced us to adapt to different daily routines, Jeff and his staff at

Montross Pharmacy redoubled their commitment to serving Winterset. They knew the pandemic presented a once-in-a-lifetime challenge, but they resolved to get through it together. Together, Montross Pharmacy kept its doors open, providing continued access to pharmacy services for residents in a safe setting. Jeff and his staff were on call 24/7. And, trust me, if there were more than 24 hours in a day to give, they'd have been there.

They also quickly added new services for the community, including thousands of COVID-19 tests and vaccinations. It wasn't always easy. When faced with a vaccine shortage, Jeff took it upon himself to drive six hours to secure more doses for his friends and neighbors. His hard work did not go unnoticed. In fact, one resident—an older woman who had been homebound during the pandemic—exclaimed to Jeff that the vaccine he administered was “the best gift she could receive.”

Jeff and his family have made a lasting mark on Winterset. Decades ago, Jeff's grandfather left his mark by welding on the cupola of the Madison County Courthouse. Today, Jeff is leaving a different kind of mark. In each COVID-19 vaccination he delivers, Jeff sees the things that make Winterset his home—a summer day enjoyed at the pool, a youth sports game, and his kids laughing over lunch with friends.

Jeff's selflessness is truly infectious, and I know that Winterset will see the impact of his hard work for years to come. I am sincerely grateful for Jeff's commitment to his family, friends, and neighbors, and it is my honor to recognize Jeff Olson as Iowan of the Week.

ISLAMIC ACADEMY OF SOUTH JERSEY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I am here today to speak about a wonderful non-profit, the Islamic Academy of South Jersey. The Islamic Academy of South Jersey first opened in 2014 and is the first and only full-time Islamic school in southern New Jersey. Their goal is to mold students into future leaders through the practice of good manners and the understanding of leadership. The Academy constantly updates their academic curriculum and ensures that the students receive quality education. The Islamic Academy of South Jersey's vision is to teach students to be constructive, helpful, and beneficial in every aspect of their lives so it can be passed along to future generations. I wish the Islamic Academy of South Jersey nothing but success and it is my pleasure to be able to recognize them for their accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING LOU KENNEDY

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Kennedy and her substantial

contributions to our home state of South Carolina.

A South Carolina native, Lou attended Lexington High School and graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Journalism. Lou has held a variety of marketing and operation roles throughout her career and currently serves as the President, Chief Executive Officer, and Owner of Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a pharmaceutical manufacturer specializing in Blow-Fill-Seal technology. Lou joined Nephron Pharmaceuticals in 2001 and quickly created a national sales force. She also headed the effort to move the company's headquarters from Orlando to Columbia in 2014, creating over 800 new jobs in the Palmetto State.

Under Lou's leadership, Nephron Pharmaceuticals has experienced unprecedented growth and now employs nearly 2,000 workers. Lou recently announced the expansion of Nephron Pharmaceuticals and the opening of Nephron Nitrile, a new plant that will produce American-made, medical-grade nitrile gloves and will be headquartered in Lexington County. This expansion is a continuation of the Nephron team's efforts to support Governor McMaster's initiative to bring the production of life-saving medications and supplies back home to the United States. Lifelong friend to Lou and CEO of Vikor Scientific, Sam Konduros said there is “not one passive bone in Lou's body . . . she is very action-oriented, and very results-driven.” Lou's long list of accomplishments proves this to be true.

As a mother to a wonderful daughter and two-step daughters, Lou has instilled in her family a strong work ethic and a desire to find ways to succeed. Lou believes that hard work needs to be modeled, and she sets this example for both her family and her employees. You'll often find Lou spending her days in the office working alongside everybody in the plant to create a cohesive, hard-working team.

In addition to her strong professional leadership and go-getter attitude, Lou is an engaged and philanthropic individual. She serves on a variety of business and civic boards, including the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Palmetto Business Forum. An avid Gamecocks fan, Lou also serves on the USC Athletic Department Board and has generously donated to her alma mater. For example, she and her husband helped establish the Kennedy Pharmacy Innovation Center in conjunction with the USC School of Pharmacy. She is affectionately known as “Cockadoodle Lou” for her financial support and gracious engagement with the institution.

As a testament to her outstanding service, Lou is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Outstanding Leadership Award from the National Association of Manufacturers and the Woman of the Year Award from the South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance. She was also named Ambassador of the Year by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Among other honors, Lou also received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor, from former Governor Nikki Haley.

Lou Kennedy is a remarkable woman whose work has truly made a difference for the Midlands region and for the entire state of South Carolina. On behalf of the 5th Congressional District, I congratulate and thank her for her continued service.